DECEMBER 6:--Last night, at approximately 10 o'clock, Fred Tayama, former President of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, was beaten up. They went to his home, dragged him out of his bed and proceeded to attack him. At that time, his wife was taking a shower. Only he and his daughter (grammar school age) were at home. Tayama was taken to the Hospital here in Manzanar. It seems that he must have told the internal police (Manzanar Police) about one of the people who attacked him. That person, a mess-hall worker, was taken into custody and sent to a jail in Independence. Apparently, the mess-hall workers did not like the idea very much and so they began to make themselves heard.

This afternoon, at one of mess-halls (the mess-hall where the person picked up formerly worked), a meeting was held. I did not attend since I knew nothing about it all. According to what I have been able to gather, a group of people wanted that fellow released from jail and returned to Manzanar. They had a protest meeting. Little by little, more and more people gathered around. Finally, it was suggested that a group of people delegate themselves as a committee to see about obtaining a release for that mess-hall worker. By this time, quite a crowd gathered and all of the people there wanted to see the outcome so they were all in favor of the idea, I presume. No doubt, many of the people were just curious.

Enmasse, the whole audience at the meeting began to go toward the administration buildings about a half a mile or so away. Someone reported this to the police who apparently called the Military Police because when the crowd of people finally got to its destination, it found some U.S. soldiers (heavily armed) waiting for them. Evidently, this did not faze the people (men, women, and children). They stood around and began to denounce and threaten certain characters in Manzanar (Japanese-Americans) as traitors, informers, and dogs. Then, they announced that they wanted the release of other people who are now in the Manzanar jail for a sentence of six months. In addition, certain Center administrators were threatened.

The crowd was ordered to disperse, but it refused. By this time, the crowd increased and the soldiers numbered about thirty. According to some of the people who were there, the soldiers had rifles and revolvers. In addition, some had portable machine-guns and there was one gun emplacement set up.

By this time, it was near supper time, so most of the people returned home after a promise was exacted that the prisoner would be returned to Manzanar by 6:00 p.m.. The crowd dispersed only after the soldiers left first. In going home, some of the people shouted "Banzai!" Others whistled or sang Japanese airs. The majority just treked home.

After supper, another meeting was held at the mess-hall where the previous one took place. Then, the crowd was divided into two sections--one group went to the hospital and the other group went to the Police Station. The group which was sent to the Hospital was united with the one intent of not allowing Fred Tayama to escape from the Hospital. It was later found out that the person in question was whisked away from the Hospital earlier in the evening. After the crowd learned this fact, it moved down to the Police Station which is a little more or less than a mile away from the Hospital. I have

heard that Fred Tayama was put into a Women's Ward for a short while for his protection and was then moved out.

At the Police Station, the mob milled around, discussing, cussing and occasionally yelling something or other. Nothing drastic was being done. The people numbered well over a thousand by this time. Most of them did not know the issue at stake, but agitators constantly said things to stimulate the mob. It was very cold, so everyone was moving around to keep warm. Many lights were shining on the people so that the soldiers could see what was happening. No doubt, the soldiers were getting rather jittery about the whole affair.

Tonight, Sunday, there was supposed to be an Open Forum Discussion sponsored by the Adult Education Department featuring Mrs. Lucy Adams, Regional Director of Education and Recreation. Due to the tension of everyone in the Center, the Forum was called off. Shizuo Hori and I were delegated to tell Mrs. Adams what had occurred and to advise her not to come.

Shizuo and I headed toward the Administration Housing. It was very dark. At about fifty feet from the House, we heard someone say, "Halt!" We walked on one more step. Then, we saw a soldier. He said, "Halt!" again. We stopped immediately without question. Then, he presumably cleared his rifle for action--we heard the bolt click. He called for someone by the name of Percy or something. We supposed that he was the Corporal of the Guard or something. He did not show up. The sentry asked us to state our business, I think (he must have had a cold or a sore throat. We couldn't hear him well.). Shizuo kept quiet. I said that we wanted to see Mrs. Adams and then I "stated our business" while Shizuo and I stood very still with our arms held rigidly at our sides. He let us pass, but he followed us with his enormous (so it seemed to us) gun.

After that, we left the vicinity quickly--Shizuo and I. In fact, we were so eager to make our departure that we tripped over (or rather practically did) some cactus plants. Shizuo went home. I followed suit.

The topic for discussion at home was the current happenings. At about 10:10 p.m., someone went through our Block rousing everyone. The dinner gong was rung a number of times.

Immediately, I thought that a fire had broken out in Manzanar. I put on my coat and dashed out the door and hurried to the mess-hall where people would usually congregate in any kind of an emergency. My brother and father followed me. About twenty people were gathered around the back steps of the mess-hall. It was terribly cold--below freezing, I'm sure.

Shivering there in the cold, I found out that the soldiers had thrown a couple of tear gas bombs into the mob (which had grown rather large by then in spite of the cold). After tossing the bombs into the crowd, some of the soldiers began to shoot. Rifles and machine guns were used. According to the informant, about four people were hit--one a youth of about 18 years.

The Block people (all men) who had gathered decided to go to the scene of action (they were prompted by someone) and my father and my brother both went to see what was happening. That left my

mother and my sister, so I stayed at home. Besides, I could not see the purpose in going down just to add to the general confusion.

The extremely odd thing was that all of the mess-hall gongs were being struck almost simultaneously all around us. The whole thing seems to have been very well planned and executed.

My father and brother returned at nearly midnight and reported that nothing more had happened and that the crowd had begun to disperse.

DECEMBER 7:--All is relatively quiet today. The neighborhood children are playing and the older folks are still talking about the night before. Some of the "in-betweens" are playing football and volleyball. Others are also in discussion groups.

At breakfast time, we saw posters which were put up by somebody not in the administration. It said that school will not be held today. All workers were told to stay at home. I guess that all did. There didn't seem to be any point in going to work today. The only people working are those in the Hospital, mess-halls, food ware-houses, and those who are distributing oil for the s toves.

According to information gleaned today, seven people were shot and injured, three were disabled rather badly by the tear gas, and two were killed. One fellow is now in the Hospital in a critical state. He had seven bullets in him (all in the back). From what I hear, most of the people were shot either in the back or in the side.

Last night one person was beaten up in a mess-hall because a group of people did not like him. I have heard that he was killed. The people who beat him up used wooden poles and one person wielded a hammer.

One more item is that the entire internal police force (all Nisei) have quit. Some of them ripped their badges (just recently acquired) from their shirts and flung them on the ground.

All this is entirely unofficial and should be treated as such.